200669US-0 DIV

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF

GROUP RECEIVED : EXAMINER: DANG, T. D.

SERIAL NO: 09/736,147

FILED: DECEMBER 15, 2000

YASUO KOBAYASHI ET AL

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1763

FOR: PROCESSING METHOD AND

APPARATUS FOR REMOVING

**OXIDE FILM** 

## <u>AMENDMENT</u>

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action dated December 17, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 37.

Please amend Claims 32 and 38-41 as follows:

- 32. (Amended) A surface treatment apparatus comprising:
- a plasma generation section for generating plasma from a plasma generating gas;
- a treatment vessel connected to the plasma generation section and including a susceptor on which a subject to be treated is placed;